

The Forsyth Board of Aldermen met in regular session on March 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor Missi Hesketh

Dennis Winzenried

Shawn Mathenia

Dustin Krob

Scott Novak – via video conference

Dennis Wiggins, Roxanne Amundsen, Frank Diecidue, Spinks, Julie AuBuchon, Elizabeth Hughes, John Farmer de la Torrel, Shelia Wyatt, Nathan Metzger, Davy Wilson, Lydia Wilson, Ronda Shelton, Cheyenne Beasley, Jim Viebrock, Madison Moore, Nathan Bower, Pat Gray, Ruby Arambulo, Rickie Brown, Cassaundra Brown, Gavin Brown, Hunter Brown, Austin Brown, and Kenton Walls.

The meeting was opened with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

SIGNED – IN SPEAKERS

Roxanne Amundsen and Elizabeth Hughes spoke to the board about the Ozark Mountain Christmas. They would like the city to join the Branson Christmas Coalition. Being a part of the coalition would help Forsyth with getting the Christmas light display underway.

John Farmer La Torrel explained to the board that he is with the Ozark Film Co-op. He would like the board to sign an endorsement that shows the city supports the Ozark Film Co-op.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Scott Novak it was approved to sign the endorsement pending the approval of the city attorney. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Shelia Wyatt explained the use tax. The use tax is on items purchased from out of state. It is the same tax that you pay on an item at a store in town. This will level the playing field for people that pay tax in town. The tax will be used to maintain the revenue of the city and will help better serve the community.

ARCHERY COMPETITION PRESENTATION

Dave Wilson with Shiloh Archery addressed the board about having an archery event at the gateway bike trail. They would like to hold the event one day a month from January through July. They will set up for the event on Friday evenings and hold the event on Saturday.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Dustin Krob it was approved to move forward with this event and work with Shiloh Archery on an agreement to hold the event. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

KPM – AUDIT REPORT

Madison Moore with KPM presented the audit to the board. The city received a clean audit. On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Dustin Krob the audit was accepted as presented. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

SIDEWALK DISCUSSION

The mayor explained that the area between the Woodlands and the shopping area in town is very dangerous due to there are no sidewalks in this area. The mayor would like to work with MODOT on getting sidewalks in this area.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia it was agreed to join with MODOT to discuss a plan to get sidewalks in this area. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

SECOND READING OF BILL NUMBER 578 – INCREASE WATER & SEWER RATES

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Scott Mathenia it was approved to table this item until the finance officer has time to research this and come up with a formula to determine what the rate increase needs to be. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

POLICE CHIEF UPDATE

Police Chief Pat Gray explained that sidewalks and lighting are needed along highway 160 by the Woodlands apartments. There have been several accidents in this area. We have several special events coming up in the spring. The police department has seen an increase in animal calls this year.

FIRE CHIEF UPDATE

Fire Chief Nathan Bower explained that the fire department has responded to 132 calls so far this year. Have several training sessions coming up. Will hold a training session for the public works department on CPR and fire extinguishers. Still working on moving the fire reports onto a new database.

ACCEPT GRANT FROM WHITE RIVER ELECTRIC TRUST & APPROVE BID FOR I-PADS

On a motion by Shawn Mathenia and seconded by Dennis Winzenried it was approved to accept the grant from White River Electric Trust and accept the bid from Verizon for eight I-pads in the amount of \$399.00 per I-pad. This will help with mapping in the fire vehicles and will be hands free. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

APPROVE RENEWAL FROM VFIS – ACCIDENT PROGRAM FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

On a motion by Shawn Mathenia and seconded by Dennis Winzenried the renewal from VFIS for the accident program for the volunteer firefighters was approved in the amount of \$2,491.00. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

APPROVE BID TO PURCHASE 40 FOOT STORAGE CONTAINER FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Nathan Bower explained that a container is needed for storage space and will be paid for out of the fire tax. He received two bids for the container, Superior Containers for \$3,100.00 and Boxhub for \$3,580.00. On a motion by Shawn Mathenia and seconded by Dennis Winzenried it was approved to accept the bid and purchase the container from Superior Containers in the amount of \$3,100.00. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

City administrator Jim Viebrock explained that he has hired four new employees in the public works and recreations departments. The aerator at the treatment plant is in process of being rebuilt. Public works have been replacing some troublesome water meters with new electronic read meters.

FIRST READING OF BILL NUMBER 579 – REGULATIONS ON SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia bill number 579 was placed on its first reading by title only. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

The first reading was approved on a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Will have the second reading at the next meeting in April.

APPROVE BID FOR ROAD SALT FROM HUTCHISON SALT CO

City administrator Jim Viebrock explained that he tried to get three bids, but the other companies said that Forsyth was too far away for them to bid.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia it was approved to accept the bid from Hutchison Salt Co in the amount of \$2,052.50. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2025 MEETING

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Dustin Krob the minutes of the February 10, 2025 were approved as written. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

BILLS AND TRANSFERS FOR APPROVAL

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia the transfers and bills were approved. The following bills were approved for payment: February 13, 2025 for \$38,774.32, February 20, 2025 for \$60,853.61, February 27, 2025 for \$40,889.59, March 6, 2025 for \$55,879.69, and March 13, 2025 for \$31,792.08. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2025

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Scott Novak the financial statements as of February 28, 2025 were approved as presented. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

CONFIRM MONTHLY AUDIT REPORTING SHEET FOR FEBRUARY WAS RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

The mayor and all board members stated that they received and reviewed the audit sheet for February.

PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

No comments from those present.

On a motion by Shawn Mathenia and seconded by Dennis Winzenried it was approved to go into closed session at 7:55 p.m. under authority of section 610.021(3) personnel. With a roll call vote of Dennis Winzenried, aye, Dustin Krob, aye, Scott Novak, aye, and Shawn Mathenia, aye.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia it was approved to allow finance officer Ann Roberts to attend two training sessions in May. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Dustin Krob it was approved to return to open session at 8:25 p.m. with a roll call vote of Shawn Mathenia, aye, Scott Novak, aye, Dennis Winzenried, aye, and Dustin Krob, aye.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The announcement was made that in closed session a motion was made by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia to allow finance officer Ann Roberts to attend two training sessions in May. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

On a motion by Dennis Winzenried and seconded by Shawn Mathenia it was approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Cheyenne Beasley, City Clerk

Dennis Winzenried, President of the Board

